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**FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL  
COVER SHEET**

**Date:** August 15, 2003

**No. of Pages** (including this page): **3**

**To:** Examiner: Daniel R. Zirker  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Group Art Unit: 1771

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Application No.: 10/014625

First Named Inventor: Hawkins, Stephen J.

Title: Polyolefin Pressure Sensitive Adhesive Tape with an Improved Priming Layer

Case No.: 56937US002

Attachments: Page 6 of the Amendment previously filed on June 13, 2003.



32692

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent  
Case No.: 56937US002

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: HAWKINS, STEPHEN J.  
Application No.: 10/014625 Group Art Unit: 1771  
Filed: October 22, 2001 Examiner: Daniel R. Zirker  
Title: POLYOLEFIN PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE TAPE WITH AN IMPROVED  
PRIMING LAYER

COMMUNICATION

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

To Fax No.: (703) 872-9381

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

August 15, 2003  
Date

Signed by: Kimberly A. Hayes

Dear Sir:

Per your request, attached hereto is a duplicate copy of page 6 of the Amendment filed on June 13, 2003 in the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

August 15, 2003  
DateBy:   
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Application No.: 10/014,625

Case No.: 56937US002

**§ 103 Rejections**

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babu et al. in view of either Davison or Hansen et al.

The present invention provides a primer comprising a maleated thermoplastic elastomer, a non-halogenated polyolefin, and a resin, wherein the resin raises the glass transition temperature of the elastomer portion of the maleated thermoplastic elastomer. (See, page 6, line 18 – page 7, line 32; and claims 1 and 12, as amended.)

The Examiner stated that Babu et al. disclose a primer comprising a triblock copolymer of styrene-ethylene/butylenes-styrene grafted with maleic anhydride mixed with an amorphous polypropylene. The Examiner acknowledged that the reference lacks the teaching of the presence of a suitable "resin." See Office Action page 3. The Examiner asserts that each of the secondary references disclose a suitable resin.

The resins of the present invention raise the glass transition temperature of the elastomer portion of the maleated thermoplastic elastomer. (See, page 7, lines 3-5; and claim 1, as amended.)

Hansen et al. teach a primer composition comprising an elastomeric block copolymer and an end-block compatible resin. (see, col. 1, lines 62-67; col. 3, line 39-46; and col. 4, lines 29-31). Hansen et al. teach that suitable polymers have endblocks giving a resinous segment and a midblock giving an elastomeric segment (col. 2, lines 4-9). Thus, the resins of Hansen et al. are compatible with the resinous segments of the elastomeric block copolymer, not the elastomeric midblock segments.

Similarly, Davison teaches resins with a high degree of compatibility with the endblocks and largely incompatible with the elastomeric midblocks. (See, col. 2, lines 26-26; and lines 53-57.)

Applicants respectfully submit that Babu et al. in combination with either Hansen et al. or Davison fails to teach or suggest a resin that raises the glass transition temperature of the elastomer portions of a maleated thermoplastic elastomer. Thus, the cited references fail to teach or suggest the presently claimed invention. For at least these reasons, the rejection of claims 1-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Babu et al. in view of either Davison or Hansen et al. has been overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.